



Mental Health and Substance Use: Access to Prevention, Treatment and Coverage

PUBLIC HEARING

October 17, 2012
10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Legislative Office
Building Room 2C

WHO: *Consumers, Providers, Advocates and other Interested Parties*

WHAT: *The Office of the Healthcare Advocate, pursuant to section 38a-1041 of the general statutes, is gathering information and facilitating comment from consumers, providers, advocates and invited guests about barriers to mental health and substance use prevention services, treatment and coverage for needed services under state and federal laws.*

Special Guest Speaker:

Carol McDaid, Principal, Capitol Decisions, Inc. –

Ms. McDaid led the Parity NOW Coalition behind passage of the 2008 “Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act.” The Parity NOW Coalition became the model for successfully advocating for inclusion of addiction and mental health benefits in health-care reform legislation. Over 300 addiction and mental health provider and consumer organizations, plus criminal justice, child welfare, and other groups, make up the coalition.

For over 15 years, Ms. McDaid has worked with leading non-profit drug and alcohol treatment centers, addiction physicians, and other prevention and consumer organizations to refine public policy addressing alcohol and other drug addictions.

Details

- 1** Sign up to testify beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the second floor atrium. Please bring ten copies of your testimony. Public testimony may be limited to five minutes.
- 2** Please e-mail your testimony no later than 4:00 p.m. on October 17, 2012 to Victoria.veltri@ct.gov.
- 3** Public testimony will begin at 10:00 a.m. Guest Speaker will make her presentations beginning at 12:30 p.m. Public testimony will resume no later than 1:30 p.m.



OHA represents the collective voice of 3.5 million healthcare consumers. For our state to be competitive, our people must be healthy. Our mission is to • assure managed care consumers have access to medically necessary healthcare • educate consumers about their rights and responsibilities under health insurance plans • inform legislators of problems consumers face in accessing care and propose solutions to those problems.